We claim:

1   1.   A method for tracing an electronic device comprising the
2   steps of:

3   providing an Agent within the electronic device, the
4   Agent configured to transmit identifying indicia for the
5   electronic device and/or its device components to a host
6   system at a predetermined time without further intervention by
7   the electronic device or user upon activation;

8   activating the Agent;

9   at the predetermined time, the Agent establishing a
10   communication link between the electronic device and the host
11   system and transmitting the identifying indicia to the host
12   system without intervention by the electronic device or user;

13   enabling the host system to determine the location of the
14   electronic device based on tracing of the communication link.